

WISCONSIN FBLA e-BULLETIN

News for Wisconsin FBLA Members



Newsletter

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Congrats to State Qualifiers

Article by Shannon Heller, Region IV Vice President



On behalf of all of your state officers, I would like to extend sincere congratulations to those advancing to the State Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells. It takes tremendous dedication and commitment to excel, and I commend all of you for putting your heart and soul into your competitive events. I am confident that with such bright and dedicated members, this year's State Leadership Conference will be one of the greatest conferences yet. With so many exciting activities planned, and the presence of the water park, it will be nearly impossible not to have fun. Make sure you take advantage of everything this State Leadership Conference has to offer!

Wisconsin FBLA, your last hurdle after the State Leadership Conference is going one step further - qualifying for the National Leadership Conference in Nashville, Tennessee. I am sure every one of you will excel at this year's State Leadership Conference, and I know we will have wonderful representation for our state delegation in Nashville. You are all on the right track to becoming great leaders of the future. Congratulations!

State Leadership Conference Update

Article by Larissa Speerstra, President



Congratulations on all of your achievements at the Regional Leadership Conference! All six regions of Wisconsin FBLA reported successful conferences.

I would like to thank all of the members who took the initiative to participate in competition this year - you should all feel proud of your accomplishments. For those of you who placed, and are advancing to state, I wish you the best of luck. The 2010 State Leadership Conference is just around the corner.

On April 12-13, over 2,000 Wisconsin FBLA members and advisers will be attending the next round of competition and election at the State Leadership Conference at the Chula Vista Resort in Wisconsin Dells. SLC registration must be completed by March 5; however, you have until March 9 to submit pre-judged materials to the State Office. Before April, it is also important to continue working on your competitive events. You may want to re-check the state guidelines - your competitive event may have different components and requirements for state than it did at regionals.

In addition to preparing for competition, be sure to check-out all that this conference has to offer. There will be plenty of opportunities for fun and excitement in your spare time. You can tour the Wisconsin Dells while riding one of the Dells Army Ducks. You may also choose to attend some interesting and fun workshops presented by the Chula Vista Resort and Noah's Ark staff members, or Jonathan Sprinkles, our keynote speaker for the opening session. You can also attend a dance on Monday night or participate in one of the Monopoly tournaments. If dances and Monopoly aren't for you, the water park at Chula Vista is always a great place to bond with your chapter and meet new friends. After any water park experience, make sure you are completely dry - due to the location of this conference, wet hair is now considered a dress code violation and is grounds for removal/disqualification. (For more dress code information, [click here](#)).

In the next few weeks, keep checking the website for tentative schedules and more SLC information. I can't wait to see all of you soon!

Also, if you have any questions pertaining to FBLA or the upcoming State Leadership Conference, please do not hesitate to ask.

Larissa Speerstra, Wisconsin FBLA President
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It's All Good In Community Service

Article by Lindsay Pappenfus, Treasurer



FBLA is continuing our growing success with community service in 2010!

Community service is a huge part of FBLA, and every chapter has their own way of helping their community. FBLA has partnered with many businesses, including the March of Dimes (MOD) and the Susan G. Komen Foundation, as well as helping the country of Haiti in their time of need. During the Regional Leadership Conferences, FBLA hosted a Miracle Minute in which members ran around with buckets and delegates put in any spare change or dollars and the money raised all went to the March of Dimes to help save premature babies. It is such an awesome opportunity to help out our community in such a small way. Chapters are now also selling purple ribbons not only to raise money, but to also get a warm feeling of knowing you're saving a baby! They are a dollar for each ribbon and they get to put their name on a poster which helps increase awareness around the school. The MOD and the Susan G. Komen Foundation are just some things that FBLA does in the community.

Chapters also help out in the community by singing in nursing homes, picking up & recycling garbage on the beach, volunteering at animal shelters, volunteering at local elementary schools, raising money for Haiti, or even picking up a book to read to a child. All of these things are acts of kindness as well as a form of community service. FBLA is known for community service, and we will continue to be involved as it gives such a great feeling in all of our homes, schools, and chapters.

CTSO Legislative Day

Article by Laura Shoenike, Region VI Vice President



On Thursday, February 11, 2010, the state officers from Wisconsin's Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs) traveled to our state capitol in Madison to take part in the annual CTSO Government Day. Among those officers were representatives from DECA, FCCLA, FBLA, FFA, HOSA, and SkillsUSA.

The day began with greetings from Sara Zwiefelhofer, a former DECA state officer. The officers also heard from a variety of speakers including Deborah Mahaffey, the Assistant State Superintendent of the Division for Academic Excellence at the Department of Public Instruction, and Representative Sony Pope Roberts of the 79th Assembly District. After getting a full tour of the capitol building, the officers participated in a question and answer panel with Senator Brett Davis and Senator John Lehman. The main topic of the panel was the current education system in Wisconsin. Officers also had the opportunity to meet with a panel of former CTSO state officers including a representative from FBLA, DECA, FFA, HOSA, and SkillsUSA. The former officers gave current officers an in-depth perspective on how much CTSO involvement has changed their lives.

In the afternoon, the officers broke off into smaller groups, based on their geographic locations, to speak with the legislators from their respective districts. All of the officers had a chance to talk with the legislators and staff about the impact that CTSOs had on their lives. The officers and legislators had the opportunity to ask questions from one another as well. In the discussions that followed the meetings, it became evident that the Wisconsin Senators and Representatives care deeply about education and CTSOs. However, in order to keep our legislators interested, we need to continue to communicate the importance of these great organizations. Members, I encourage you to research the senators and representatives in your district and communicate the impact CTSOs and FBLA have had on your life! By showing your representatives what you care about, you truly can make a difference.

March of Dimes Miracle Minute

Article by McKenzie Baeker



Each year, Wisconsin FBLA fundraises and donates money to the March of Dimes. The March of Dimes organization is dedicated to improving the health of babies by preventing birth defects, premature birth, and infant mortality. Wisconsin FBLA continues to be the largest contributor to the March of Dimes organization. The money raised goes toward helping cover the costs of research to help with the health of babies. We encourage all members and chapters from across the state of Wisconsin to continue raising money for the March of Dimes. Money can be raised through various fundraisers such as Penny Wars and other contests.

At this year's State Leadership Conference, we will be hosting a "Miracle Minute." For the "Miracle Minute," we will have members go throughout the convention center collecting any money for one minute during the awards ceremony. We will have a representative from the Madison March of Dimes to collect all of the money raised. If you did a fundraiser at your local chapter, you may bring that money

to the State Leadership Conference and the representative will collect that money as well. Wisconsin FBLA, you can make a miracle happen!

They're Pros

Article by Ann Reetz, Region II Vice President



FBLA's Professional Division is almost like the unknown side of FBLA. By the name, we can gain that it's a division of FBLA for professional members. But who are these professional members? They can be anybody. Most of the individuals who are members in this division are former members, employers, educators, parents, and outside business people.

At the high school level of FBLA, many members don't have connections with the other three divisions of FBLA. For many, FBLA may even seem like a high school level only activity. There are options post-high school for those members who want to be involved in what FBLA has to offer. PBL, the college version of FBLA, is one option, and Professional Division is the other. Being a professional member has its perks. Members have the chance to share their business experiences and knowledge with students who aspire to one day be in their shoes. If that isn't enough, they also can receive rental car and hotel discounts at locations such as Alamo, Days Inn, and Ramada and a professional level newsletter called The Professional Edge.

It is beneficial for FBLA chapters to have Professional Division members. The opportunities for students who have active Professional Division members are endless: job shadows, scholarships, local business tours. Professional Division members also make great judges and sponsors for local, state, and national competition. Our Professional Division members have business experience and knowledge that students do not. This knowledge is highly valuable, so get in touch with your Professional Division members.

If you would like to become a Professional Division member, go online to fbla-pbl.org or contact a Wisconsin FBLA state officer.

Region I Update - Where no Region has Gone Before!

Article by Johanna Smith, Region I Vice President



Region I had a very successful Regional Leadership Conference at Somerset High School. Twenty-two chapters were in attendance! The conference was a success for many, and no one was injured in the moonbounce! The day was filled with fun and excitement. All the left-over food was donated to the Somerset Food Shelf. Congratulations to Devon from Somerset High School for winning the FBLA Fear Factor challenge and to Elizabeth of Somerset and Zach of Baldwin-Woodville for winning the pi digit recitation challenge. I would like to extend my congratulations to Jordi Tiffany from Baldwin-Woodville High School for being elected as the new Region I Vice President, good luck next year! Also, congratulations to Osceola High School for being the Region I Outstanding Chapter. Thank you to everyone who attended the Region I Leadership Conference and all of Region I for a wonderful conference and an amazing year as your Region I Vice President. Thank you and good luck at the State Leadership Conference, see you all there!

Region II Update

Article by Ann Reetz, Region II Vice President



Region II had a fantabulous Regional Leadership Conference. Everything went as planned, and congratulations to all who qualified for state competition. Now that the RLC is over, I want to wish everybody luck on studying and planning for the SLC in April. Remember, FBLA is Simply the Best!

Region III Update

Article by Kyle Ashauer, Region III Vice President



Hello, Region III!

We had a fantastic Regional Leadership Conference a few weeks ago! I'm so happy that everyone came to participate, compete, and continue the great legacy of Region III.

Thank you to the 650+ people that attended, either competing, judging, acting as advisers, bus drivers or just coming to enjoy the experience. We hope that you enjoyed our speaker, Chris Czarnik, as he went over his 14 traits of leadership. We all could take something from his presentation.

As for our entertainment, Rondini, the magician, went over very well; people enjoyed most of his acts, including the straightjacket bit at the end. That sure isn't something for the weak.

At this point, I'd like to congratulate Rachel Egdorf from Mishicot for becoming our next Region III Vice President. I speak on the behalf of the entire region when I say that we look forward to the 2011 Region III RLC.

I cannot wait to see everyone at state this April in the Wisconsin Dells! Until then, study up!

Region IV Update

Article by Shannon Heller, Region IV Vice President



The 2010 Region IV Leadership Conference turned out great with 30 chapters and over 750 students in attendance vying for a chance to advance to the State Leadership Conference in Wisconsin Dells. The day started out great with the opening session beginning right at 8:45 AM. We began with greetings from Stephanie Seichter, the Lincoln FBLA Chapter President and Bill Van Meer, Superintendent of the Alma Center-Humbird-Merrillan School District. The students then listened to our two keynote speakers, Heather Gonyo and Linda Arzt from Badger Mining, a company ranked number one as the best small company to work for in America. They shared their message on what it takes to be a leader and how their company has excelled focusing on hard work and working as a team.

After the opening session, students competed in their events followed by lunch and entertainment. Before we knew it, everyone was back together for the voting session and awards program. It was decided by a unanimous ballot that Dakota Betts from Sparta High School would be our next Region IV Vice President. Congratulations to Dakota and everyone who advanced to the State Leadership Conference. I know you will make Region IV proud!

Region V Update

Article by Jenny Nash, Region V Vice President



Hello state members! Congratulations to Region V for a fantastic Regional Leadership Conference! On February 6, Fond du Lac High School was host to the Region V Leadership Conference, and everything went smoothly. The Fond du Lac Police Department and a local dance studio (Shut Up and Dance) both came and gave presentations in the afternoon after all the competitions were completed. Our Outstanding Chapter Award went to Portage High School this year, so a congratulations goes to Portage's FBLA chapter as well. A special thanks goes out to all Region V's members for making this years RLC Simply the Best!

Region VI Update

Article by Laura Shoenike, Region VI Vice President



So far this year, Region VI FBLA has truly been living up to its goal of being 'Simply the Best!' Our Regional Leadership Conference on February 6 was extremely successful. Oconomowoc was very proud to host over 1,000 registered attendees.

Before competition began, Region VI started out strong by raising \$285.11 for the March of Dimes through a 'Miracle Minute.' Thanks to everyone who supported this worthy cause. As the day continued, Region VI continued to excel. Congratulations are extended to Menomonee Fall High School, our 2010 Region VI Outstanding Chapter and Community Service Award recipient. Region VI is also proud to announce that Tyler Karian from Brookfield East High School will be serving as 2010-2011 Region VI Vice President. Congratulations to all participants and good luck to those who will advance to the State Leadership Conference.

Special thanks to Dr. Patricia Neudecker, Oconomowoc Area School District Superintendent, for her inspiring keynote speech as well as Lindsay Pappenfus, State Treasurer, for hosting a Monopoly tournament for non-competitors. Thanks also to all of our wonderful volunteers: judges, timers, test administrators, Oconomowoc FBLA parents and members, and so many others. Above all, we are extremely grateful for Kyla Stefan and Becky Kitt, Region VI Vice President Advisers. Their perpetual optimism and countless hours of planning were truly instrumental in hosting this event!

Quick Links...

- [State Leadership Team](#)
- [Wisconsin FBLA Website](#)
- [Wisconsin PBL Website](#)
- [North Central FBLA Website](#)
- [Previous eBulletin Issues](#)
- [DPI Nondiscrimination Clause](#)

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